

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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TO: Missouri Local Public Health Agencies, Missouri U.S. Influenza Sentinel Surveillance

Physicians, and Stakeholders

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SUBJECT: Weekly Missouri Influenza Report, 2003-2004 Season

(All data in this report are provisional and may change as reports are updated.)

DATE: April 20, 2004

Missouri is reporting "sporadic influenza activity" to the CDC for Week 15. (Influenza activity codes are reported to CDC each Monday.) To view weekly maps click here.

Reported Laboratory-Confirmed Cases by Sub-type For the Week Ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15)							
Se rogroups A A A A B A Or B Untyped (rapid test)					Total		
Week 15	0	0	0	0	9	9	
Season-to-Date*	9,238	127	0	162	8,338	17,865	

^{*}The influenza season begins with week 40 (week ending October 4, 2003) and ends with week 20 (week ending May 15, 2004).

Clusters/Outbreaks of Influenza-like Illness For the Week Ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15)								
Health District	Central	Eastern	NW	SE	SW	Season -to- Date 03-04	Season -to – Date 02-03	Last Year Season Total 02-03
School Closings	0	0	0	0	0	16	205	205
Community Outbreaks	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	4
Long Term Care or Institutional Outbreaks	0	0	0	0	0	12	3	3
Other Outbreaks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Season-to-Date	13	1	7	3	5	29	212	212

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Deaths							
For the Week Ending April 10, 2004 (Week 14)*							
Week 14	10 Year Weekly Median						
64	2,918	35	49 *				

^{*}Beginning in week 35 of 2003, the number of P&I deaths may show increases based on a new system of retrieval that now includes all contributing causes of death from death certificates.

* Prior to 1999, P&I data were collected from week 46 through week 17; therefore, the ten-year median will be noted only during those weeks.

U.S. Influenza Sentinel Physicians Surveillance Network (US ISPSN) Influenza-like Illness (ILI) for the Week Ending April 10, 2004 (Week 14)							
Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age 65+	Total ILI Patients Seen	Total Patients Seen	Percent ILI	
5	3	0	0	8	2,235	0.35%*	

^{*} This percentage is below the national baseline of 2.5%.

Respiratory Specimens Submitted to SPHL for Viral Testing For the Week Ending April 17, 2004 (Week 15)									
	Positive Specimens								
	Influenza	Para- influenza	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Adeno- virus	Rhino- virus	Entero- virus	Total Number Specimens Submitted		
Week 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Season-to-Date	130	2	3	2	0	2	260		

CDC antigenically characterizes a sample of positive Missouri influenza isolates, submitted through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), State Public Health Laboratory (SPHL). DHSS has received results on twenty-two influenza isolates submitted to CDC for antigenic characterization, of which:

One has a B/Sichuan/379/99-like antigenic profile. While this strain is different from the influenza B strain included in the 2003-04 influenza vaccine, it has enough similarities that the vaccine strain may help lessen the severity and duration of influenza illness.

Six have an A/Panama/2007/99-like (H3N2) antigenic profile and are antigenically similar to the A Panama/2007/99-like (H3N2) strain contained in the 2003-04 vaccine.

Twelve have an A/Korea/770/2002-like (H3N2) antigenic profile, which is the reference strain for the A/Fujian/411/2002-like virus currently in circulation. The current vaccine offers some cross-protective immunity and reduces the severity of influenza illness.

Three are of the A/Fujian/411/2002-like (H3N2) genetic group, as determined by real-time PCR assay technology conducted directly on the viral material submitted. This virus has been recommended by the World Health Organization as the H3 component for the 2004-2005 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine.

Sources of Data: Laboratory-confirmed cases are reported to DHSS through the passive communicable disease surveillance system. Suspected influenza clusters and outbreaks are reported through the active surveillance system. Pneumonia and influenza deaths are reported through the DHSS Bureau of Vital Records. Influenza-like illness data by age category and total number of patient visits by week are reported voluntarily by participants in the U.S. Influenza Sentinel Physicians Surveillance Network.

This report may also be found on the DHSS Internet at: www.dhss.state.mo.us/Influenza/index.html. National influenza surveillance information is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services after hours number for reporting disease cases and emergencies is 1-800-392-0272.







